

Amendments to the Claims

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. -2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A vaccine composition comprising a proteosome adjuvant and at least one group A Streptococcal antigen ~~attached to a hydrophobic moiety, wherein the antigen~~ that comprises an antigenic peptide between 6 and 25 ~~15 and 30~~ amino acids in length from the conserved C-terminal region of an *S. pyogenes* M protein, wherein the antigenic peptide comprises the amino acid sequence ASREAKKQVEKALE (SEQ ID NO:1). and wherein the antigen is attached to a hydrophobic moiety.

4. (Currently Amended) The vaccine composition according to claim 3 wherein the antigenic peptide ~~has~~ consists of the sequence ASREAKKQVEKALE (SEQ ID NO:1).

5. (Currently Amended) The vaccine composition according to claim 3 wherein the antigen comprises the antigenic peptide ~~is flanked by~~ amino acid sequences to maintain helical folding of the antigen.

6. (Currently Amended) The vaccine composition according to claim 5 wherein the antigenic ~~peptide has~~ antigen comprises the sequence KQAEDKVKASREAKKQVEKALEQLEDKVK (SEQ ID NO:2).

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) The vaccine composition according to claim 3 wherein the hydrophobic moiety is attached at the N-terminal end or C-terminal end of the antigen for complexing the antigen with the proteosome adjuvant.

9. (Currently Amended) The vaccine composition according to ~~either claim 3 or claim 7 for~~ wherein the composition is formulated for mucosal administration.

10. (Previously Presented) The vaccine composition according to claim 9 wherein mucosal administration is intranasal.

11. – 12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The vaccine composition according to claim 3 wherein administration of the composition to an individual induces a mucosal immune response.

14. (Previously Presented) The vaccine composition according to claim 3, wherein administration of the vaccine composition induces a serum immune response.

15. (Previously Presented) The vaccine composition according to claim 9 wherein the vaccine composition is capable of treating or preventing a group A Streptococcal infection via reducing or preventing streptococcal group A bacterial colonisation of the throat.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of treatment or prophylaxis of group A Streptococcal infection in an individual comprising administering the vaccine composition according to ~~either claim 3 or claim 7 to~~ the individual.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16 wherein said vaccine composition is administered intranasally to said individual.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17 wherein the treatment or prophylaxis of the group A Streptococcal infection is produced via prevention or reduction of bacterial colonisation of the throat.

19. (Previously Presented) The vaccine composition according to claim 3 wherein the antigen further comprises a spacer peptide comprising at least two glycine residues, and wherein the spacer peptide links the antigenic peptide and the hydrophobic moiety.